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## ■ COMMUNITY

### Family fighting deportation

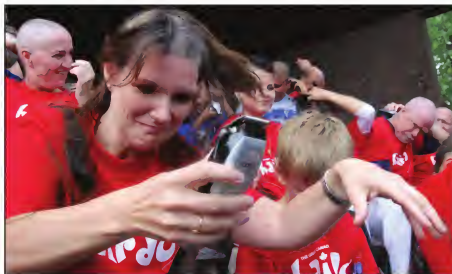
ALLAN BENNER  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — "It broke my heart to see the children crying," said Jennifer Gardiner, struggling with her emotions.

see DEPORTATION | A2

## ■ TERRY FOX RUN: Football players remember coach

### 'He was a mentor to us'



Stephanie Powell-Baswick grins as she helps her head to help kick off Port Colborne's Terry Fox Run, Sunday. She was among 58 people who chopped their locks for charity during the event.

ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

ALLAN BENNER  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — "He was a mentor to us," said Justin Romanyk, remembering the man who led the Port High Blue Bears to a 2009 high school football championship, head coach Chris Cairns.

"He was our inspiration. He meant a lot."

The coach died in August at the age of 53 after a four-year battle with cancer.

"Winning that championship was something we will never forget," Romanyk added.

"It was the best thing that could have happen," team member Jason Chesniak said. Team members shaved their heads four years ago when Cairns lost his hair to cancer treatment. Last Sunday, they did it again.

But this time, they were among 58 people who shaved their heads on the stage at Ft. H. Knoll Lakeview Park to kick off the Terry Fox Run, a feat that set a Guinness World Record, organizers said.

see CHRIS CAIRNS | A2

See inside:

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## ■ DEPORTATION

# Community rallies around Martinez clan

## FROM PAGE A1

She recalled the day she first learned about what was happening to her friends and neighbours, the Martinez family.

Gardiner said her seven-year-old daughter came home a few weeks ago, crying that her friend Carlos Jr. would soon be leaving for Mexico.

Gardiner soon learned the Martinez family was being deported.

But Gardiner and her neighbours couldn't let that happen without doing something to try to stop the deportation.

"The family has been a wonderful part of our community," she said at a neighbourhood rally they organized last Sunday at Hubnerstone Shoe Park.

"We are here to see if we can somehow get people to open their hearts and have compassion for this family, and for the government to be compassionate, in this case, to let the family stay."

The family applied to remain in Canada, concerned about their safety if they were forced to return to a country where thousands of innocent people are falling victim to drug-related violence.

In migration, Canada turned down their request saying the Mexican government was taking steps to ensure the safety of its citizens, and ordered the family's deportation.

But the violence in Mexico isn't the only reason the Martinez family wants to stay in Port Colborne. For Mariol Martinez, Port Colborne is a second home.



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

The Martinez family, from left Socorro Castillo, Carlos and Mariol Martinez, and children Carlos Jr. and Luna, are being deported from Canada in two weeks. Friends and neighbours said a rally Sunday in the hope of drawing support to allow the family to stay in Port Colborne.

Her sister Lucero Talving has lived in Port Colborne for 22 years after marrying Canadian Leo Talving. During those years, Mariol spent months at a time staying with her sister in Port Colborne.

A few years ago, Mariol, her husband Carlos, and their son Carlos Jr. moved to Port Colborne, along with Mariol's now 79-year-old mother Socorro Castillo, so the family could be together once again.

They've already started rebuilding their lives here. Carlos is working at a local sign shop. And since arriving in Canada, they had another child, a daughter named Luna.

Talving said "love" is the real motivation that brought them together. And love is also the main reason they

want to stay together, living in Port Colborne.

Carlos thanked the community for "opening your hearts" to his family, and Mariol said the support they have shown has given the family strength and hope.

Castillo was also touched by the efforts of her neighbours in Port Colborne to help the family remain here.

"They have big hearts," she said.

Welland MP Malcolm Allen told the rally participants that his office has been actively working on the families' immigration case for "quite some time."

As recently as late Friday afternoon, he said his office staff sent a letter and called the office of Jason Kenney, Canada's minister of citizenship, immigration and multiculturalism, asking him to

personally look into the case, and to stop the deportation order to give them time to complete an application to allow the family to stay in Canada on humanitarian compassionate grounds.

When Allen returns to Ottawa on Monday morning, he plans to talk with Kenney to make sure he understands why the Martinez family should be allowed to stay here in Port Colborne.

"We know it, we need to make Minister Kenney understand it now. That's what I'll be doing first thing on Monday morning is to make sure he understands that what's needed here is a stay on the deportation until we can finish the humanitarian and compassionate grounds application. Ultimately, the Martinez family should stay."

Allen also urged supporters of the family to call the minister's office at 1-888-242-2100, or to call St. Catharines MP Rick Dykstra at 905-934-6767 in St. Catharines, or 1-673-992-3352 in Ottawa. Dykstra is the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Immigration.

"Make sure you let the minister know you want the Martinez to stay," Allen said. "I'll be telling the government that this is a couple that has come here to help build this country, just like my parents did in 1963," he added.

"As a neighbourhood and community, we just want to stop the deportation," Gardiner said. "I cannot say how proud I am to have them as my neighbours. They are just so wonderful an asset to our community."

abenner@wellandtribune.ca



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

Port High Blue Bears shaved their heads in memory of their coach Chris Cairns, last Sunday. A few of the team members who took part in the event include Josh Tot, Jason Chesniak, Peter Blatchley, Justin Romanyk, Jagger Romanyk and Brody Ostermar.

## Port Colborne makes record book for charity head shaving

## FROM PAGE A1

Nancy Salvage, the city's Terry Fox Run co-ordinator, said it was nice to see the football team honour the memory of their coach.

"It was very moving to see them up here," she said, referring to the team members. Salvage said during the past four Terry Fox runs, small groups of people have been getting their heads shaved to start the event. This year she wanted to go all out.

Initially, she hoped to get 30 people together, all willing to shave their heads. After all, she said it's the 30th anniversary of the event.

But even while they were setting up for the event, she said people arrived with their electric shavers hoping to participate as well.

Salvage was amazed to see

so many people willing to shave their heads. She was even more amazed that they didn't blow a fuse using all those electric shavers.

"It was so thrilled when all of those shavers started up and the power stayed on," Salvage said with a laugh. "I hoped this was going to happen, and I'm so happy about it."

Joey Crawford, who emceed the event, said the Guinness Book of World Records opened a new category for the most people simultaneously shaving their own heads for charity, which means Port Colborne now holds an official record for the achievement.

The amount of money raised during the event was still being tallied up Sunday.

abenner@wellandtribune.ca

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# portraits

## ■ FUNDRAISER

# Coffee Break for Alzheimer's

For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Coffee Break for Alzheimer's was held at Market Square, and other

locations in Port Colborne, last Friday. Co-ordinators Gail Todd, of Mayor Vance Badawey's office, and Ruth Faris, along with volunteers

Margaret Minor and Jane Williams. Coffee breaks were held at Portal Village, Northland Pointe, St. John Bosco School, McKay Public School, Harvey's/

Swiss Chalet, Sobeyes, Port Cans, Port Colborne Regional Child Care, Meridian Credit Union in Wainfleet and the Township of Wainfleet.



GAIL TODD InPort News Photo

Volunteers Margaret Minor, Ruth Faris (co-coordinator with Gail Todd of Mayor Badawey's office) and Jane Williams set up the coffee and homemade cookies for the Mayor's Office Coffee Break for Alzheimer's in Market Square at 7:30 Friday morning. At right, Todd and Faris, along with volunteers Minor and Jane Williams, baked cookies to accompany coffee from Ten Thousand Villages brewed by Todd. Other busy bakers were Eleanor Peyton, Donna May, Jean Heils, Gloria Rossman and Noreen Lannan. The efforts of the bakers, who donated the cookies and all the delicate ingredients, contributed to the success of the event, which raised \$560 and change.



GAIL TODD InPort News Photo

Terry Fox Run co-ordinator Nancy Salvage (and Fair Trade committee member) stopped by for coffee with Jean Heils and Carol Kramarich last Friday morning.

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GAIL TODD InPort News Photo

Sisters Carol Kramarich and Jean Heils volunteered at the Coffee Break for Alzheimer's event in Market Square last Friday, sponsored by Mayor Vance Badawey's office. Fair Trade coffee was served (Ethiopian and Colombian) in cups donated by the local Ten Thousand Villages store on Clarence St. The City of Port Colborne is Ontario's first official Fair Trade city, so of course at special events such as this, only the best Fair Trade coffee and sugar would do.



GAIL TODD InPort News Photo

Juergen Zierle of Wainfleet makes a donation to the Alzheimer's Society, while Margaret Minor serves homemade cookies; Gloria Rossman and Ruth Faris converse in the background. Visitors to the Coffee break event were so generous; co-ordinators Faris and Gail Todd were grateful to them, and to all the bakers and helpers who made the day a special event.

# INPORT NEWS

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## yourview Attend the debates

With the election about a month away, residents should plan on attending local debates to hear what the candidates have to say.

While many people have already decided who they are going to vote for, there are many others who have not.

We're appealing to the undecided, and even the decided, to attend the debate in Welland, if you live there, or one of the debates in Port Colborne.

It's a chance to hear where candidates stand on certain issues and a chance to see how they answer questions and perform under pressure.

Questions for the debates — Oct. 6 in Welland, and Oct. 13 at 14 in Port Colborne — can be submitted to Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce. Contact the chamber or check its website — [www.pcwchamber.com](http://www.pcwchamber.com) — to see what the deadline for submitting questions.

Go to the debates and really listen to what each candidate, whether incumbent or challenger, has to say.

Are the answering the questions asked of them? Are they sticking to their message? Are they making promises they won't be able to keep?

Then decide if what they are saying resonates with you and if that is the candidate you want at city hall representing you. Decide if that is the candidate that will help bring the city forward and make Port Colborne a better place to live than it already is.

## Fall Fair time

Wainfleet's annual Fall Fair kicked off last night.

The annual fair features Wainfleet and Port Colborne's agricultural side and with this year's corn country theme, organizers are hoping for another successful year.

Wainfleet is an agricultural community, it has fields of various crops all across the township and livestock barns as well.

Though we don't think of it much, Port Colborne is also an agricultural community.

Ward 4 is full of fields and livestock, as well.

We should all remember that without the fields, farms and farmers, the food that appears in groceries might not be there.

Fall fairs like this remind us that buying local, while a popular slogan these days, really does have an effect.

Local food is much fresher than something shipped from California, Mexico or China. And by buying local, we're helping local farmers pay their bills and keeping them producing the food we need.

## I'VE BEEN THINKING

# Soaking up the rays of the Son

JEEVA SAM  
Forks Road East United Church

I was recently reclining comfortably on a rented chair beside my lovely wife Sulajana, protected from the 36 degree Celsius heat by a rented beach umbrella.

A cool breeze from the Atlantic Ocean made the heat quite tolerable, dare I say, enjoyable? The sound of the waves rolling in, the squeals of children feeling the chill of the water, the whistles of lifeguards warning those who had waded past the safety zone, the chatter of adults enjoying each others' company...it was a cacophony that was, in reality, a symphony of human delight.

Our eyes were treated to a veritable feast of colours — the aquamarine of the ocean, the intermingled shades of beige and black sand on the shore, swimmers that spanned the VIBGYOR spectrum and skin that ranged from white to black with shades of yellow and brown thrown in. Of course, we could not miss the reds that showed up in blotches, patches and sections on certain bodies, no matter what the original skin tone happened to be.

## readers'views

### Register Canada's gun owners, not their guns

Gun owners are uncomfortable about registering each of their long guns, not only because it's costly and cumbersome for the government to do so, but because many of them are concerned what happened in Europe prior to and during the Second World War.

Jews were ordered to register their firearms and these guns were then seized by the Nazis. Then began the Holocaust when the Jews were rounded up and slaughtered.

The Canadian government, like the German government, also ordered the registration of long guns, the first attempt by the Canadian government to do so. Canadian troops returning to Canada after the war were greeted with an order by the federal politicians to register their sporting firearms without exception.

Canadian veterans returning from the bloodiest war in human history told the Canadian government that veterans were not armed with this Canadian gun registry of sporting firearms. These veterans had put their lives on line in crushing the Nazis who had slaughtered millions of people and had required German citizens to register their firearms. The Canadian government of the day in 1945 decided to allow that first long gun registry to die.

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Copyright in letters and other material submitted to the publisher and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the Publisher and its licensees may freely reproduce them in print, electronic or other form.

You guessed it, some soakers were clearly exhibiting signs of excessive exposure to the rays of the scorching sun on the public beach of Ocean City, New Jersey. Many of them seemed oblivious to the transformation that had happened while they were sunbathing, wondering why they were being subjected serious scrutiny from total strangers.

Watching these changes in skin colour took me back to a 12 hour period between 7 p.m. the previous Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday, when I and the aforementioned lovely Sulajana along with a number of other followers of Jesus were lying down on the carpeted floor and unconditioned pews of Forks Road East United Church in Welland.

Yes, there was a variety of skin tones among the group as well. No, there were no squeals of delight or chatter or warning whistles, but there were other sounds. Some of us, including yours truly, contributed a noisy na-na na na na, a.k.a. snoring. Thankfully, the noise was only "soaking" music, a symphony of divine delight, a delectable blend of soothing instrumental and

vocal selections piped through the sound system.

The entire event began with a simple prayer: "Holy Spirit, come." Sometimes the answer to this prayer is accompanied by babble a.k.a. speaking in tongues and, as on the Day of Pentecost described in Acts 2, a holy cacophony.

This time, though, He responded with waves of glory that washed over the room. All we had to do was remain silent and passive, simply absorbing the presence of the Lord Jesus himself.

Does this kind of exposure to Son-light leave visible marks on soakers? Andrea and Mae travelled all the way from Buffalo to be at our so-called Soakathon for the very first time. They described it as "a heavenward experience like no other."

Their pastor, upon seeing them on Sunday, wrote: "I saw a peace around both of them."

Yes, soaking in the rays of the Son is indeed bringing about tangible transformation to the human body and the Body of Christ.

Much later these appeared on the Ottawa scene a politician who thought that he had a great idea. Allan Rock pushed through parliament a law that created a compulsory long gun registry that created criminals of owners of sporting firearms who in some way failed to comply with his complicated registry.

And Mr. Rock promised that the cost of his registry would not exceed \$3 million.

I'm a registered legal gun owner in Canada. I've passed the exams and obey all the safety rules for gun ownership.

I've passed criminal background checks. I have a licence that I must produce when the police check my residence or car to see that everything is legal. This licence must be renewed periodically. I must be registered as a gun owner before I can legally own a gun.

No trip or skirt shopping or legal gun ownership until I'm registered as a legal gun owner.

This information pops up on every police computer in Canada and in every police car I'm pulled over by the police or if they come to my house to see if the safety rules of firearm ownership are followed.

All this is fine with me.

But then I must register my firearms on the long gun registry as well to be a legal gun owner. That information from the long gun registry also appears in the same

computers and has cost nearly \$2 billion to date to compile and is constantly in a state of change.

The long gun registry has been hacked several times and much personal information has disappeared. Such information is welcomed by criminals who probably did the hacking. Legal gun owners are registered by their gun licence without this long gun registry and are immediately known to police at the click of a computer key. Great. Now let's put the money from a redundant long gun registry into arresting gang bangers and other criminals. And in doing so, the police and society will have the full cooperation of the legal firearm community.

Our federal government should allow this long gun registry to die.

Continue to register the firearm owners but not the millions of legal firearms.

Erno Rossi  
Port Colborne

### Fix the economy before building any wellness centres

Before we spend another dollar on Wellness Centres in either of Welland or Port Colborne, we should ensure we have a Wellness Centre for the economy first.

Ray Alexander  
Fenwick



■ **COLUMN:** This may well be the best season of the year

# Fall golf and a wedding on the beach

I love fall golf. Only because I hate hot, humid weather.

Fall golf is an opportunity to get outdoors during arguably the best time of the year. Well, this and spring.

There is never a better opportunity for fall golf than some of the late-season tournaments that take place at this time of the year.

Last week was the perfect example.

Mayor Vance Badaway and the folks at city hall put on their annual appreciation tournament for the city.

And there are many, dozens in fact.

With Sandy Pilot, who looks after community partnerships, Gina Murdoch and Aline Kane, who are the city's special events coordinators, Annette



**George Duma**  
BY GEORGE

Molenaar, administrative assistant to community and corporate services director Peter Senese and many others from city hall organizing and coordinating the event with Whiskey Run's Jessica Nieuwland, you know it's going to be a well-run, smooth affair filled with laughter and joy.

And it was.

My foursome included my nephew Steve Snider, my brother-in-law and Steve's uncle Larry Snider and our friend Pam Bourque. These are three of the finest, most fun people to be around for a day.

We got there around 11 in time to hit some golf balls

before a beautiful lunch of chicken cutlet on a bunch with salads and the fixings.

We teed off at 1 in a shotgun format and started laughing halfway down the first fairway and didn't stop until after the 18th green and dinner.

Well, maybe except for the three times that golf balls came whizzing by our heads from fellow competitors. And that's not an exaggeration—three times one or all three of us narrowly missed being beamed by flying golf balls. But even that we managed to laugh at.

The day ended perfectly with a prime rib dinner out on the deck before we all headed home.

see DUMA | A6



**GEORGE DUMA**  
InPort News photo

Golfer (and my nephew) Steve Snider tries to guess how many golf balls are in the bag as Sandy Pilot, who looks after community partnerships at the city, takes down his estimate. It was all part of Mayor Vance Badaway's appreciation golf tournament for Canal Days sponsors.

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## ■ DUMA

# Beauty on the shores of Lake Erie

## FROM PAGE A5

The folks at Whisky Run really know how to do tournaments and do them well. It's always a wonderful experience, from beginning to end.

Last week was no exception.

A beach wedding in late September? Who says it can't be done?

Certainly not Brent Lindhurst and Amy Bremner, who got married last Sunday in Wainfleet, on Long Beach.

Brent's folks, Brian and Ellen, are dear friends of ours and we were honoured to be invited.

The invitation was adorable. It read: "Beachfoot beach boy meets animal-loving country girl. Come see what happens in the next chapter, OUR WEDDING!"

It was magical. Brian and Ellen own a set of cottages out that way they rent to clients all summer long. They are on a beautiful stretch of Long Beach and it was out behind their house that they

set up a huge tent for the festivities.

It was magical, absolutely spellbinding. Brent and Amy are such an amazing couple, not only perfectly matched but very loving, caring and nurturing toward others.

It's one of the reasons there were about 200 people on the beach to share their special day.

Pastor Tom Arth from First Lutheran Church is a wonderful guy and he came to marry them. Then the party began, complete

with a beautiful dinner of shishkabobs, rice, salad and other goodies.

It was by far one of the nicest weddings I've ever had the pleasure of attending. It was casual, yet incredibly classy. It was emotional, yet not over the top.

As evening rolled in, three beach bonfires were lit and a band began to play for guests in the tent.

I don't use the word "perfect" very often, but this really was.

see DUMA / A7



GEORGE DUMA InPort News photo

It was magic by the waves last Saturday at Long Beach as Amy Bremner and Brent Lindhurst tied the knot under a big tent in the sand. With the ecstatic couple are Ellen and Brian Lindhurst, mom and dad of the groom and two of our closest and dearest friends. Oh, and that's Poco at the bottom, one of Amy and Brent's three rescue dogs. The wedding was as beautiful as it looks here.

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April's family has lived, worked and farmed in the township for several generations, cementing her ties to the area. Living on Morgan's Point for more than a decade both April and her husband operate their businesses here. Their two sons are being raised and educated in the Township fuelling her desire to preserve Wainfleet's heritage and make it a sustainable, rural community of choice.

**APRIL WILL BE IN YOUR AREA SOON!**

*In the meantime...*

Join us Sunday, September 26th  
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**AND... ON OCTOBER 25TH**  
**Elect APRIL JEFFS for MAYOR**  
Vote for positive change...

## ■ DUMA

# Showboat is a secret to share

## FROM PAGE A6

What a wonderful way for two incredibly sweet, kind loving people to start the "next chapter."

May they be happy and healthy for decades to come as they grow old together.



Showboat Festival Theatre held its yard sale at the Rosewell Centre last Saturday to clear out some of the old props the theatre company doesn't use anymore and to raise some funds.

Many people donated items to the cause and three people took advantage of the opportunity to pay a \$20 fee and set up tables of their own

to sell stuff.

The weather was excellent for the event and it was a buzz of activity. It also gave me the opportunity to catch up with a lot of old friends, including Sue Patterson, Mickey Mayne, Alana Hoyle and James Brennan.

I miss being on the Showboat board but it was either that or cover this past summer's shows for The Tribune.

I obviously couldn't do both without being in a conflict of interest.

I've seen lots of live theatre during my life, and Showboat is a world-class organization that doesn't have to take a

backstage to anybody.

I only wish more people could get in on the secret and enjoy what we have right here in town. The live-theatre experience is an amazing one.

Oh well, maybe next summer.

*George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He is currently a member of the Journalism faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at [gduma@niagara.ca](mailto:gduma@niagara.ca)*



GEORGE DUMA  
InPort News photo  
Nile Collins, left, and Dakota LaMarre found sartorial splendor at Showboat Festival Theatre's yard sale at The Rosewell Centre last Saturday. The boys obviously found what they were looking for amid the former stage costumes on sale.

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■ **ART:** David Spengler exhibiting his works at Port Colborne gallery

# Retired priest uses painting to relieve stress in his life

**ALLAN BENNER**  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Rev. David Spengler has always loved goldfish.

He recalled walking home from school as a child, passing a goldfish pond in a neighbour's yard and stopping to see the fish. "I used to be fascinated by

them," he recalled. That childhood love for goldfish might have helped inspire one of the works of art he recently created, on display at Arts Place at 714 King

St. It's an old antique table that Spengler transformed into a goldfish pond with oil paint.

And it's one of the high lights of the more than 20

works of art on display at the gallery until Sunday, Oct. 10.

Painting has always been important for Spengler, who retired from the priesthood eight years ago.

As a child he always loved making works of art. As a Catholic priest working at area parishes, including St. Patrick Church in Port Colborne, he said painting helped him unwind and cope with the stress of a profession that "can wear you down."

Painting, he added, is "a good satisfying hobby that's helped me get through."

Spengler said people often assume that as a priest he would create religion-themed paintings. While he has created religious paintings in the past, he doesn't like to limit himself to one genre.

His recent paintings include the goldfish table, brightly coloured flowers, landscapes and some abstracts.

They're all on sale, ranging from a high of \$1,500 for the table to a few hundred dollars for some of the paintings.

abenner@wellandtribune.ca

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ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

The oil paintings and mixed media artwork of David Spengler, a retired Catholic priest, will be on display at Arts Place at 714 King St. in Port Colborne until Oct. 10.

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■ **ELECTION:** Wainfleet headquarters opens today; platform to be released

# Jeffs wants to run positive mayoral campaign

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — Vote for positive change.

It's a message up on the wall of April Jeffs' mayoralty campaign headquarters at Chambers Corners in Wainfleet.

"I want to run a positive campaign," she said.

If elected mayor, Jeffs wants to build a cohesive team that works together for the township. She's also for openness and transparency.

So far, she said, people have been receptive to her while out in the township. Jeffs plans to get to every home in Wainfleet to put out her message and hear what people in the community have to say.

"It'll be out weekdays, evenings and Saturdays."

If she misses anyone while on the campaign trail, they can visit her at her campaign headquarters at 41995 Hwy. 3, beside Pappa's Pizza at Chambers Corners. Her headquarters will be open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"I'll be accessible and here for people to ask questions."

One of the things she wants to see happen is for the township to get involved in Niagara Region's culture plan. The culture plan is to

build upon and co-ordinate the many existing cultural assets and activities to create a shared vision and action plan for culture in Niagara.

"We've lost a lot of industry in Niagara and the culture plan looks at having a more creative economy."

She said Marshville Heritage Festival and Wainfleet Fall Fair are two festivals the township has that can be used to attract more people to Wainfleet and Niagara.

"We have the Feeder Canal that can be used all-year round ... Lake Erie, the Wainfleet Bog. If you give people a reason to come, they'll come."

Jeffs said bike tours could be run through the township. Agri-tourism, through tours of local livestock farms, could

be promoted as well.

"We have so much to offer."

Other issues in her platform include drainage and opportunities for local businesses.

"Drainage is one of the concerns I have heard from the start of my campaign. So one of my goals is to work with the agricultural community to ensure effective drain-

age within the township.

"I also want to encourage opportunities for Wainfleet businesses to participate in township projects."

Jeffs can also be found on

Twitter at <http://twitter.com/AprilJeffs>. She has a Facebook group called April Jeffs for Mayor of Wainfleet.

[djohnson@wellandtribune.ca](mailto:djohnson@wellandtribune.ca)



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■ **ELECTION:** Ward 3 candidate says wellness centre must be more affordable

# Shibley seeks council comeback

MARYANNE FIRTH  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It was the concerns of residents that prompted Doug Shibley to enter the race for Ward 3.

The former city councillor, who held the role from 2003 to 2006, said he was not intending to run for council again, but could not ignore the concerns residents brought forward to

him — many regarding Port Colborne's proposed health and wellness centre.

Shibley, 71, said everywhere he goes he comes across people who are "afraid" of how council plans to spend funds for the centre.

He's not against the idea of the facility, he said, but would like to see one built that is more affordable and reasonable for a

city of Port Colborne's size.

Shibley said even during his time in council chambers from 2003 to 2006, he was against the amount of money a majority of councillors wanted to spend on the project.

"The fact is that I would like to have a \$75,000 to \$100,000 car, but I just can't afford it."

Though many people in the community would like to have

a centre like the one being proposed, they understand it's not within the city's means, he added.

Shibley said facilities of the proposed centre's size are typically used by more than one community when built in a smaller city.

He has doubts that people will travel from outside Port Colborne and Niagara to use



Doug Shibley

the facility.

Had Port Colborne accepted Welland's offer to team up to build a multi-sports complex, "we would've

had the population to make use of the facility 100%," Shibley said.

Also, Shibley said the city has not been budgeting enough for its sidewalks and roads.

The city has been "patching things here and there" because there's not enough funds for that infrastructure, he said.

Shibley said city hydro funds and federal gas tax funds that should be allotted for these infrastructure projects are instead being set aside for the health and wellness centre — something he'd like to see changed.

Shibley lives on Elm St. with his wife of 51 years, Dolores.

They have two children, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca

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■ **ELECTION:** Nora Nater makes bid for Port Colborne Ward 1

## Looking 'outside the municipal box' for fresh ideas

MARYANNE FIRTH  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Nora Nater wants to bring 'experience outside the municipal box' to council chambers.

The 57-year-old Port Colborne native said she's always had interest in "challenges facing all levels of the political arena."

With her children now reaching adulthood, Nater felt now was the perfect time for her to make a bid for the Ward 1 seat.

She said this is a time for

"new leadership" and "fresh ideas and perspectives" to be brought forward at city council.

Nater said, "I want to bring my experience, my education, my business background, and my life experience to the council."

Nater said she wants to develop new approaches to dealing with issues, challenges and ongoing work at hand to the benefit of the

community at large."

Port Colborne's citizens deserve better accountability and transparency from council, with "too many behind closed-door deliberations" occurring, she said.

Nater said city council needs to offer further clarity in the information it presents to the public, and improve its fiscal responsibility in regards to financial affairs and commitments.

Important community projects, such as the proposed health and wellness centre, must be "representative of all citizens' real

expectations and abilities to afford," she said.

If elected, Nater said she will be dedicated to "accurately representing the views and expectations" of constituents in Ward 1 and around the city.

She said she's gained a strong background in political science and public administration through her education and work experience, and has developed business management skills through her own business selling contracts for office furniture across Ontario.

Nater worked for Transport

Canada/Canadian Coast Guard for 12 years, working in program development and human resources.

She has tapped into her entrepreneurial side with Thomas Nater Consultants Inc. and Nater Furniture Sales Inc.

Nater plans to put her business skills to use, focusing on economic development within the city.

Port Colborne needs to see new growth in industries and business approaches, and embrace green initiatives, she said.

Supporting the needs of

youth in the community is also a focus for Nater, who feels youth are "essential to the vigour and future of our community."

She has been involved in youth-based initiatives for more than 15 years, supporting and participating in the Port Colborne Soccer Club, Scouts Canada, and elementary and high school parent councils.

Nater lives on Clarence St. with husband Thomas. They have two sons, Kristen, 28, and Anson, 24.

[mjfrth@iellandtribune.ca](mailto:mjfrth@iellandtribune.ca)

■ **ELECTION:** Casey Biko makes bid for Port Colborne Ward 2

## Wellness centre decision prompts Biko's candidacy

MARYANNE FIRTH  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Casey Biko wants to bring change to council chambers.

While running for council has been on his mind for some time, Biko decided this was the year to take the leap into municipal politics, entering the race for Ward 2 councillor.

It was council's recent decision to have the proposed health and wellness centre rendered and re-engineered that was the deciding factor, he said.

"Enough is enough," he said, adding the project "should have been done right the first time."

"The city went too far and now we're paying for their mistake by handing even

more money over to consultants" he said.

Biko hopes to focus on replacing existing facilities within the city, which is what he believes Port Colborne can more easily afford.

"We don't need something that extravagant," he said of the facility's full-build option.

The city is in need of "more efficient and effective governance," he said, which he hopes to help provide.



Casey Biko

of being a backseat driver." City hall could "use some

Biko said he's always had an interest in local politics, and "always had concerns."

"I thought it's time to take

new blood," said the 36-year-old, who lives in Ward 2 with wife Karen and their son Alex, 6.

Biko said his roots grow deep in Ward 2, where his family once had a long-established restaurant, Chip and Dales, on Main St. Biko previously owned a Cruise and Clean business within the ward. He now works as a production technician at Jungbunzauer.

"City hall must to a better job listening to residents and being mindful of how it spends taxpayers' money," Biko said.

"For me, the first rule of leadership is to listen. That's what I bring to the table."

He said the city needs to create "more productive partnerships" with community agencies in order to help working families in need of some assistance.

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■ **ELECTION:** 22 years in same role he first won by a single vote

## Dekker wants to continue Catholic board work

**KAESHA FORAND**  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — For more than 20 years, John Dekker has been part of Niagara Catholic District School Board decision making.

He hopes to again have the opportunity to represent Port Colborne, Wainfleet and Port Erie youths if re-elected to his trustee position.

His reasons for running are the same they were 22 years ago when he won by one vote during the 1988 elections.

"The main reason is the kids first. It's always been about serving children of the community and it will always be first and foremost," he said.

"Kids can stay first, politics can stay out of it."

Dekker has served seven terms as trustee over which time he has seen technology and education change.

When he was first elected to the board, schools were focused on academics with little focus on trades.



John Dekker

"Now I think we're one of the better boards with diverse fields of programming," he said of the board's vast technology curriculum.

Dekker is a mink farmer. He is married to Ann and has four children — Tony, Mathew, Carolyn, Jeanette — and two granddaughters.

Having experience run-

ning his own business, he says he can contribute to budgeting and also has much experience.

For the board, Dekker has served six years as vice-chair and two years as chair, in 2001 and 2002.

He also chairs committee-of-the-whole meetings.

He isn't making any election promises because he says everything is accomplished as a team of trustees.

The board "acts as one," Dekker says.

With the start of the school year, he's looking forward to the implementation of the board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and was happy with all the public input that went into the process.

[kforand@wellandtribune.ca](mailto:kforand@wellandtribune.ca)

■ **ELECTION:** 'All available money should be directed to the

## Retired teacher seeks public school board trustee spot

**MARYANNE FIRTH**  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — For Michael Kamatovic, it's "all for the kids' sake."

The 67-year-old retired high school teacher wants to see District School Board of Niagara students provided with the best education and opportunities possible.

Kamatovic is making a play for the position of trustee, in hopes of representing Port Colborne and Port Erie.

He sought the trustee seat in 2006, but was ineligible to become a candidate because he was on the board's supply teacher list.

This election, however, he's determined to bring positive board.

Kamatovic taught at the high school level for 35 years, spending a majority of his

teaching career at Port Erie Secondary School.

He's also spent many years coaching a variety of minor sports.

He lives in Port Erie with his wife Josie, with whom he has three adult children.

All three of his children went through the public school system.

He said his main concern is the closure of schools in Niagara.

He does not want to see schools in the Port Colborne and Port Erie area suffer the same fate as Niagara District Secondary School in Niagara-

on-the-Lake.

There "have to be alternative ways" to resolve issues with declining enrolment besides closing schools, he said. "We have to find those ways."

Kamatovic said he's heard from residents within the Port Erie and Port Colborne communities who are concerned schools may be closed, just as the hospital emergency departments in the two municipalities have been closed.

"They say, 'if we lose our schools, we lose our identity.' We need to protect, promote and preserve public education and its schools."

Kamatovic said the board needs to be cautious on how it spends its funds.

"All available money should be directed to the classes."

[mfirth@wellandtribune.ca](mailto:mfirth@wellandtribune.ca)



Mike Kamatovic

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**NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**FOR OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 2010**

Due to the 2010 Municipal Elections, the regular meetings of Committee of the Whole/Council scheduled for Monday, October 25, 2010 have been cancelled.

The regularly scheduled meetings of Tuesday, October 12, 2010 will proceed as normal at 6:30 p.m.

The Inaugural Meeting of Council will be held on Monday, December 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

The regular meetings for December will be held on Monday, December 13, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

This notice is given in accordance with Section 4.2(b) of By-law 4314/150/02.

Ashley Grigg  
City Clerk

This notice is available in an alternative format upon request.

■ **TRANSPORTATION:** Information sessions to prepare aging motorists

## Seniors taught what to expect when taking driver's licence test

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — As seniors age, their motor skills aren't as sharp as they once were.

Aging and medication both affect a person's ability to drive. Seniors should know about the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario testing requirements for mature drivers.

To help inform seniors and those who care for them, Volunteer Seniors in Action, in partnership with Le Centre Polyvalent Des Aînés Francophones and the Friends over 55 Social Club, is holding two senior motorist sessions.

Port Cares volunteer co-ordinator

Rachelle Anderson said the MTO will lead the sessions, presenting what is to be expected when seniors take driving tests and how to prepare for them.

A pharmacist will speak about how medications affect driving. Niagara Regional Police will also be on hand.

Sessions will be held Thursday, Sept. 30, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Wainfleet arena, 1943 Park St., and on Wednesday, Oct. 27, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at Friends Over 55, 554 Fielden Ave., Port Colborne.

Registration is required. Call 905-834-3629 ext. 262. The free information sessions are not only open to seniors, but also to family members or caregivers.



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### THE CITY OF PORT COLBORNE

#### MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2010

**NOTICE OF VOTE, ADVANCE VOTING and VOTING BY PROXY**  
Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s. 40)

**NOTICE** is hereby given to the municipal electors of the City of Port Colborne that voting will be held upon the dates and at the times and places stated in this notice for the purpose of electing persons to the following offices:

**Mayor (one to be elected at large by all electors)**

Councillor Ward One (two to be elected)

Councillor Ward Two (two to be elected)

Councillor Ward Three (two to be elected)

Councillor Ward Four (two to be elected)

**Regional Councillor (one to be elected at large by all electors)**

**Trustee – District School Board of Niagara (one to be elected at large by the English Language Public School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne, the Town of Fort Erie and the Township of Wainfleet)**

**Trustee – Niagara Catholic District School Board (one to be elected at large by the English Language Separate School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne, the Town of Fort Erie and the Township of Wainfleet)**

**Membre du Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique Centre-Sud (one to be elected at large by the French Language Separate School electors of the municipalities of Port Colborne, Welland, Fort Erie, Pelham and Wainfleet)**

Acclamations have been declared for the following offices:

Membre - du Conseil Scolaire de District du Centre-Sud-Ouest (French Language Public School Board) - Ronald A. Marlon

#### ADVANCE POLLS:

**DATES:** Saturday, October 16, 2010 and Wednesday, October 20, 2010

**LOCATION:** Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Those electors requiring special assistance are encouraged to vote at an Advance Poll.

#### REGULAR POLLS:

**DATE/TIME:** Monday, October 25, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Voter Notification Cards are being sent to all persons on the Voters' List in late September to mid-October indicating the polling place where they may vote. It will facilitate voting if electors present their card at the Poll. If you are an eligible voter but do not receive a card or you need more information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 905-835-2900 or visit the City's website at [www.portcolborne.ca](http://www.portcolborne.ca).

#### PROXY APPLICATIONS:

Any qualified elector may appoint another person who is a qualified elector in the same municipality to vote on his/her behalf. For more information and the form "Appointment for Proxy Voting" please contact the Office of the City Clerk, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne or 905-835-2900. A person nominated as a voting proxy must make application to the clerk for a certificate to vote by proxy before 5:00 p.m. on October 25, 2010.

Ashley Grigg, City Clerk  
& Returning Officer

Documents related to the 2010 Municipal Election, including this notice, are available in an alternative format upon request.

■ **ELECTION:** Chamber of commerce hosting candidates

# Wainfleet, Port Colborne debates slated

InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Here's your chance to ask questions of candidates in Wainfleet and Port Colborne.

Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce is looking for questions for upcoming debates it is hosting in both municipalities.

In a news release, chamber manager Edith Wagner said the cut-off date for submissions for the Wainfleet debate is Friday, Oct. 1.

The Wainfleet debate for mayoral and aldermanic candidates will be held Wednesday, Oct. 6, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Winger Church of Christ (Disciples),

53238 Hwy. 3.

The cut-off date for submissions of questions for the Port Colborne debates is Friday, Oct. 8.

Port Colborne debate will be held Wednesday, Oct. 13, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for Ward 1 and 3 candidates, as well as for mayor and regional councillor positions. The debates

will be held at Roselawn Centre, 296 Fielden Ave., Port Colborne.

Candidate debates for Ward 2 and 4 and also for mayor and regional councillor positions will be held Thursday, Oct. 14, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. also at Roselawn Centre.

Candidates running for

District School Board of Niagara, Niagara Catholic District School Board, and for French public and Catholic boards may submit a typed presentation of 300 words or less to office@pcwchamber.com. Those presentations will be posted to the chamber's website, www.pcwchamber.com.

Questions for all candidates can be dropped off at the chamber office; mailed to Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce, 76 Main St. W., Port Colborne, L3K 3V2; faxed to 905-834-1542 or e-mailed to office@pcwchamber.com. The chamber office can be reached at 905-834-9765.

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**BEANS**  
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 OR WAX BEANS  
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# WAINFLEET FALL FAIR

## Wainfleet is set for annual fall fair

KAESHA FORAND  
 InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — The Wainfleet Fall Fair is a true testament to the township's agricultural roots.

The annual fair features Wainfleet and Port Colborne's agricultural side and with this year's corn country theme, organizers are hoping for another successful year.

Fall fair board president David Wyatt said the 43rd annual fair is bigger and better than ever and is hoping for 6,000 people to attend between Thursday Sept. 23 to Saturday Sept. 25.

He said some new events to this year's fair includes three age categories for Wainfleet Old including one for children aged six to 12, 13 to 18 and 19 and up, calf and horse lassoing and in honour of the fair's corn theme, a corn eating contest will be held Saturday at 5 p.m., where 10 contestants will try and eat the most corn in three minutes.

Wyatt said perennial favorites including the antique tractor pull, 4-H exhibits, scarecrow decorating contest, kids pedal tractor pull, midway, horse pull, teen dance, Saturday morning pancake breakfast and many other events.

The parade at St. Elizabeth school will begin format her rear of the school and make its way to the fairgrounds.

"It should be comparable to last year, if not more," he said of the parade.

Last year's events drew about 3,800 people because of bad weather and Wyatt is hoping to draw thousands to the township's downtown core, near town hall and the arena.

"There are lots of entries with fruits and veggies," Wyatt, who has been at the helm of the fair for five years, is happy to say the fair board is almost out of debt, a good feat since their funds can be used to improve the festival.

"It allows us to put more into the fair," he said.

### Wainfleet Fall Fair

Thursday Sept. 23

6 p.m. Parade starts  
 6:30 p.m. Antique Tractor Pull  
 6:45 p.m. Sheep dog demonstration  
 7 p.m. Cattle Show  
 7:30 to 9 p.m. Old Time Fiddlers at the arena stage  
 9 p.m. Buildings close; 10 p.m., midway closes

Friday Sept. 24

School tours begin at 9 a.m., throughout the day there will be milling demonstrations, Niagara Antiquity Power Association kids train, petting zoo, crafts for kids and the Halloween room.

6 p.m. Modified tractor pull  
 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Teen dance at the outside stage  
 9 p.m. Buildings close  
 10 p.m. Midway Closes

Saturday Sept. 25

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$2 for elementary school students

A wide variety of activities including hay rides, birds of prey flying demonstrations, petting zoo, farmer's market and calf and horse lassoing in the tennis court.

9 to 11 a.m. Pancake breakfast served in the fire hall

9:30 to noon Baby show

10 a.m. Horse show starts

1 p.m. Kids pedal tractor pull in the town shed

2:30 p.m. Pumpkin carving starts

6 p.m. Demolition derby on the track, horse pull at the back of the arena. Portrait on the stage  
 8:30 p.m. Closing ceremony, 9 p.m. buildings close, 10 p.m. midway closes

"It's grown, gotten bigger attendance is up and the amount of entries has shot up. We have a great board of directors and tremendous amount of volunteers."

A full list of events and prices are available at <http://sites.google.com/site/wainfleetfallfair>.

kforand@wellandtribune.ca